

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT 65 BAWTRY ROAD, BESSACAR, DONCASTER, SOUTH YORKSHIRE



On behalf of: **Danum Developments**

Planning App. No. 15/008945/FUL

CS Archaeology

February 2016

On behalf of: Danum Developments

National Grid Reference (NGR): SE 606 017

Project Number: 159

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Frontispiece: view of plot , looking north

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- 1 the project design

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is in response to an archaeological condition, on Planning Consent, Application No. 15/008945/FUL, Cond. 11, for an archaeological watching brief during foundation excavations associated with the redevelopment of the site into 5 No. residential dwellings at 65 Bawtry Road, Bessacar, Doncaster.
- 1.2 The watching brief revealed no significant archaeology across the site (plot 4 was not observed).
- 1.3 No residual pottery/artefacts earlier than the late 19th/20th century were recovered.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report has been commissioned by Danum Developments Ltd. to record any archaeological deposits/artefacts evident during the excavation of the proposed 5 No. residential dwellings.
- 2.2 Bessacar is situated south of Doncaster. The Proposed development area (PDA), lies to the rear of 65 Bawtry Road (**Figures 1 & 2**).

3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 **Historic and Archaeological Background:**

- 3.1.1 Archaeologically the area was dominated by the Roman fort and linking road system of *Danvm*. The site lies close to the Roman Road of Ermine Street, as it heads for Lincoln from Doncaster. The earliest Roman fort was probably established about AD 70/71, to act as a base for the invasion and to secure the route north across the River Don. During the mid to late 2nd century, the fort was completely rebuilt on the same site. This rebuild covered a smaller area and was focused on the north-west corner of the earlier fort (ASWAS 2007). The civilian settlement of *Danvm* developed under the protection of the forts and expanded along the principal roads and probably the River Don.
- 3.1.2 From examining historic maps, the PDA during the C19th was characterised by large agricultural enclosures, The enclosures were generically known as 'High Field' and lay to the east of the 'Great North Road' (Bawtry Road). By 1893 these large rectangular enclosures had been subdivided to form 'large' residential plots. These plots featured centrally positioned houses, and clearly reflected the aspirations of Doncaster's middle class.
- 3.1.3 The Ordnance Survey map of 1930 depicts the area of PDA straddling two of these large tree lined plots. The PDA remained largely unaffected until the 21st century when the large 19th century plots were in turn sub-divided.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 To ensure that any buried archaeological remains present are investigated in order that an understanding of their nature extent and significance can be assessed, before they are damaged or destroyed. This will allow for the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered and CS Archaeology will ensure that the knowledge gained is then disseminated.
- 2.2 If archaeology is revealed every effort will be made to enable the deposits to be preserved in situ.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 This has been carried out according to a Project Design (Appendix 1). During the course of the watching brief digital photographs were taken of the general work and these have been incorporated into this report.
- 5.2 Due to the nature of deposits and absence of any significant archaeology, no archive has been prepared.
- 5.3 The only departure from the project design was not observing the excavations of plot 4. From the excavations of plot 5 this area contained significant concrete strip foundations and was therefore historically disturbed.

6 RESULTS

- 6.1 The watching brief took place in October 2015. A range of 20th century artefacts were recovered, a metal toy car, pottery and glass but have not been retained.
- 6.2 The watching brief was able to characterise the PDA and small sections were cleaned and recording for most of the plots (**Plates 3-6**). The soils consistent and characterised by a sandy loam 'topsoil' (no subsoil) above natural sands. To the north of the site (**Figure 1, Plot 1**) concrete footings were encountered which extended down 0.3m, and these were consistent with a small garden building possibly a garage. The southern end of the site (Plot 5) encountered substantial concrete footings with no evidence for a superstructure.
- 6.5 The up-cast was also scanned for metal artefacts but nothing significant was revealed.

7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The watching brief has demonstrated that the PDA contains no deposits of archaeological significance. Furthermore no residual artefacts were recovered that would suggest any activity prior to the late 19th/C20th century. NB plot 4 wasn't observed.
- 7.3 No other archaeological features were noted across the PDA, and no further work is recommended.

8 REFERENCES

8.1 *Secondary Sources*
ASWYAS, 2007, *Doncaster, South Yorkshire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment Volume 1: Town Survey*, ASWYAS report no. 1304

8.2 *Cartographic References*

Ordnance Survey 1854-1968

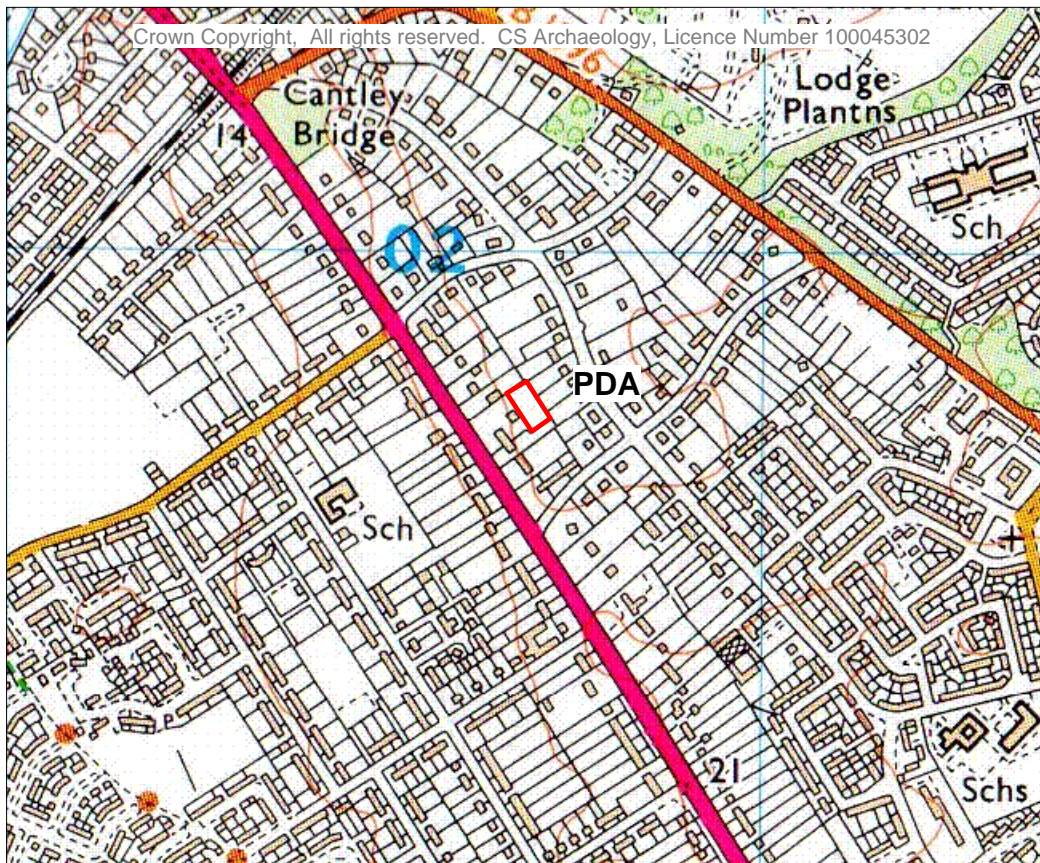
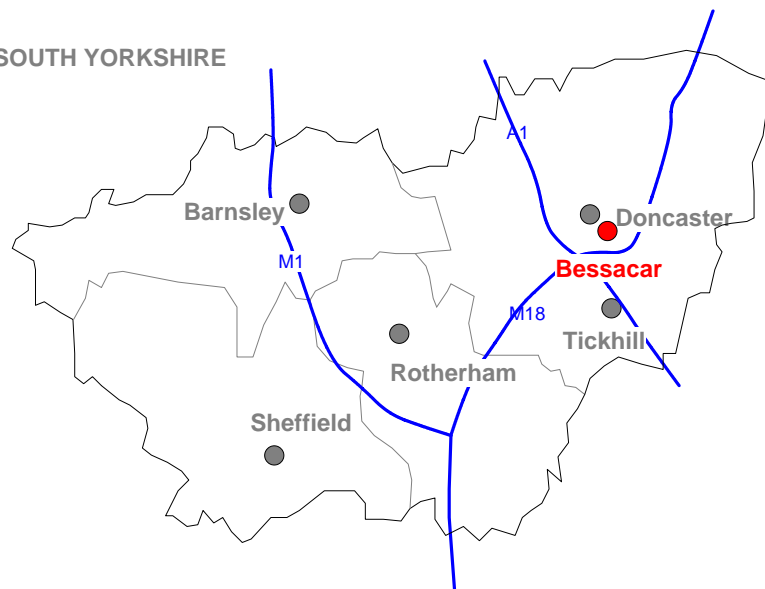
Ordnance Survey digital map 2015 courtesy of Saxton Design Ltd.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Danum Developments Ltd. for commissioning this report and arranging access to the site during construction and to South Yorkshire Archaeology Service for monitoring this intervention.

FIGURES

SOUTH YORKSHIRE



An Archaeological WB
at 65 Bawtry Road, Bessacar,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire

Figure 1: Location Map

not to scale/1:10000

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An Archaeological WB
at 65 Bawtry Road, Bessacar,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire

Figure 1: Site Plan
not to scale

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PLATES



Plate 1: pre-excitation view of the site, looking southeast



Plate 2: excavation view of the site, looking north



Plate 3: post excavation view of a arbitrary section in plot 1, looking southeast



Plate 4: post-excitation view of an arbitrary section in plot 2, looking south



Plate 5: post-excitation view of an arbitrary section in plot 3, looking south

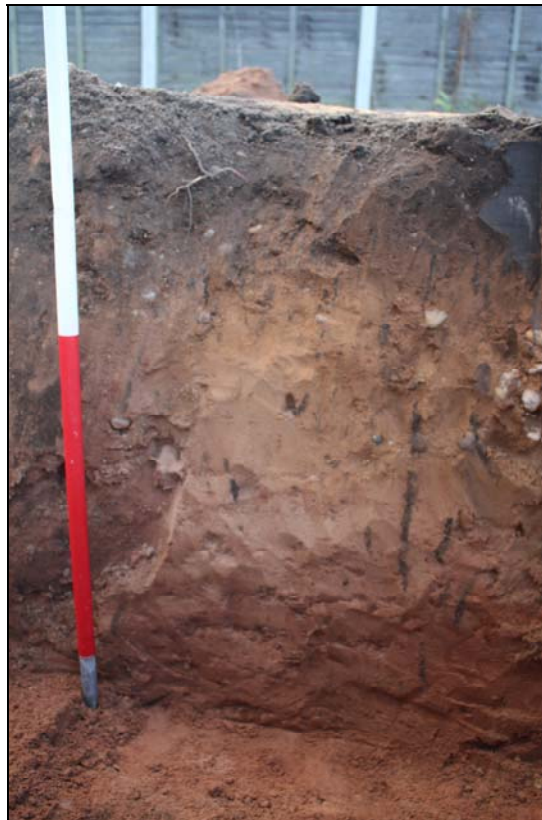


Plate 6: post-excitation view of an arbitrary section in plot 5, looking west

APPENDICES

1. Project Design

**PROJECT DESIGN FOR AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT
65 BAWTRY ROAD, BESSACAR,
DONCASTER, SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

Planning App. No. 15/008945/FUL

**For: Saxton Design Ltd. and
Danum Developments**

CS Archaeology

October 2015

0 SUMMARY

0.1 This Project Design (PD) is in response to a condition on planning consent (App No. 15/008945/FUL/COND 11) for the erection of 5 detached and associated double garages on approximately 0.34 Ha of land at 65 Bawtry Road, Bessacar, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN4 7AD.

0.2 This PD proposes that an archaeological watching brief is implemented to record potential archaeological deposits during all below ground works, specifically during site reduction, service trenches and foundation excavations.

0.3 The results from this works will provide a more detailed record of the Proposed Development Area's (PDA) archaeological resource, and will mitigate any archaeology by 'preservation by record'.

0.4 Archaeological monitoring (often referred to as a 'Watching Brief') is required to ensure that remains that are to be affected by works will be recorded and/or retrieved.

0.5 All archaeological work will comply with:

- "*Regional statement of good practice for archaeology in the development process, Yorkshire, the Humber & the North East*" (available for download from the SYAS website);
- relevant IfA Standard and guidance documents;
- relevant EH best practice guidance documents.

0.6 All archaeological work will be monitored by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Details

- 1.1.1 *Site Name:* 65 Bawtry Road,
- 1.1.2 *Location:* Bessacar, Doncaster, South Yorkshire (**Figure 1**)
- 1.1.3 *Status:* non- statutory
- 1.1.4 *Grid reference:* SE 606 017
- 1.1.5 *Area of site (hectares):* 0.34 Ha

1.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 The area is dominated by the Roman fort and linking road system of *Danvm*. The site lies close to the Roman Road of Ermine Street, as it heads for Lincoln from Doncaster. The earliest Roman fort was probably established about AD 70/71, to act as a base for the invasion and to secure the route north across the River Don. During the mid to late 2nd century, the fort was completely rebuilt on the same site, although covering a smaller area of around 2.3 hectares, focused on the north-west corner of the earlier fort (ASWAS 2007). The civilian settlement of *Danvm* developed under the protection of the forts and expanded along the principal roads and probably the River Don.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 This Project Design (PD) has been written in response to a condition on planning consent.
- 1.3.2 This PD represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements during the redevelopment of the PDA. This is in accordance with Local Plan Policies and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 12).

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 To ensure that any buried archaeological remains present are investigated in order that an understanding of their nature extent and significance can be assessed, before they are damaged or destroyed. This will allow for the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered and CS Archaeology will ensure that the knowledge gained is then disseminated.
- 2.2 If archaeology is revealed every effort will be made to enable the deposits to be preserved in situ.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Procedures and Objectives

- 3.1.1 Access during the works will be afforded to CS Archaeology at all reasonable times, arrangements for access to the site will be agreed with the client Danum Developments Ltd, in advance.
- 3.1.2 CS Archaeology will ensure that any plant and machinery operated by CS Archaeology is used with due care and attention.
- 3.1.3 Ditching bucket will be used at all times unless modern/concrete deposits are encountered.
- 3.1.4 This project will be undertaken in a manner consistent with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and professional standards and guidance (IFA, 2001).
- 3.1.5 All finds that are 'treasure' will be reported to the coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act Code of Practice (1997).
- 3.1.6 If architectural features or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the site works CS Archaeology will be afforded the opportunity to investigate and record them. Significant or unexpected discoveries will be immediately reported to the archaeological monitor (SYAS).
- 3.1.7 During the watching brief analytical drawings and a written report on the deposits will be made sufficient to illustrate archaeological details.

3.2 Photography

- 3.2.1 A general and detailed photographic record of the demolition will be made. General and detailed photographs will be taken with a 35mm camera. All photographs will be in black and white using an appropriate silver based film (Ilford Delta 400 Professional), this will form the primary photographic record.
- 3.2.2 This record will be supplemented by 35mm colour slides, especially where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded, e.g. bedrock and characteristic stratigraphy. All photographs will contain an appropriate graduated photographic scale. Digital photographs will also be taken to illustrate the report and to supplement the archive, copies will be included in the digital archive which will be supplied both the client and to SYAS.

3.3 Site Monitoring

- 3.3.1 SYAS will be notified at least two weeks in advance of the site works and the start of the site works, so that arrangements for monitoring the work can be made.
- 3.3.2 Monitoring will be arranged so that all excavated areas can be inspected in an exposed condition.

3.4 Finds Recovery and Conservation Strategy

3.4.1 If any site reduction work does take place and this is not anticipated, the following categories of artefact may be predicted on this site: pottery, ferrous and non ferrous metalwork, glass, ceramic building material, worked bone, flint and/or worked stone. Potential finds could date from any period.

3.4.2 Should a site archive be created this will be offered to Sheffield Museum Service, and a project initiation form (attached) will be completed in advance with copies sent to Sheffield Museum and SYAS.

3.4.3 All recording, marking and storage of material will be of archive quality and recording systems will be compatible with Doncaster Museum. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects and an assessment of their long-term conservation and storage needs.

3.4.4 Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication First Aid for Finds. In accordance with the procedures outlined in MAP2, all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy will be X-radiographed before assessment.

3.4.5 If required a specialist assessment report on the recovered artefacts will be undertaken, with a view to their potential for further study. Any assessment report will form an appendix to the main report. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and storage needs.

3.5 Health and Safety

3.5.1 CS Archaeology will operate with due regard to health.

3.6 Post –Recording Work and Report Preparation

3.6.1 Once the site works have been completed, a full report of the results of the watching brief will be undertaken by CS Archaeology, within 3 months. The post-excavation assessment of material if recovered will be undertaken in accordance with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage, 1991). The report will include: background information, methods, detailed results, grid references, conclusion and discussion.

3.6.2 The watching brief report may if required include a phased interpretation of the site, and a detailed photographic index.

3.6.3 A copy of this PD will be included as an appendix to the final report.

3.7 Post Excavation Specialists

3.7.1

Prehistoric and Medieval Pottery	Dr C G Cumberpatch, Sheffield
Roman Pottery	Ms R Leary
Anglo-Saxon Pottery	Ms J Young
Slags	Dr R MacKenzie, Sheffield
Environmental sampling and	Ms E Simmons, Sheffield

analysis	
Bone (Animal)	Mr J Buglass, Northallerton
Bone (Human)	Mr M Holst, York Osteolo-Archaeology

3.7.2 Should any further specialists be required these will be employed accordingly after approval by the SYAS.

3.8 Preservation in situ

3.8.1 During the course of the watching brief, structures and deposits could be encountered that require the need for preservation in situ. CS Archaeology will ensure that any feature meriting preservation will be reported to and a design solution if feasible will be developed in full consultation with SYAS.

3.9 Archive Preparation & Deposition

3.9.1 A site archive will be prepared in accordance with English Heritage MoRPHE guidelines (English Heritage 2006). See also *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales* Society of Museum Archaeologists 1995.

3.9.2 The site archive, including finds and environmental material, subject to the permission of the relevant landowners, will be labelled, conserved and stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC)'s *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (Walker 1990) and the Museums and Galleries Commission's *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*, 1992.

3.9.3 Arrangements will be made for the full and final archive to be deposited in with Doncaster Museum in accordance with their deposition and archiving standards. If, after the watching brief, no further archaeological work is initiated, the archive will be deposited. An agreed allowance will be made for a contribution to Doncaster Museum towards the curation and storage of material.

3.9.4 If further archaeological mitigation is requested any additional archaeological work undertaken, the archive will be prepared accordingly for incorporation into the final archive.

3.9.5 Archive deposition will be arranged in consultation with, and will take account of Doncaster Museum's requirements and the relevant guidelines (see above). The timetable for deposition shall be agreed on completion of the site archive and report.

3.10 Report Submission

3.10.1 Upon completion of the field work a full report will be produced and copies with CD Rom containing the text of the report and illustrations (including all photos and slides taken), scanned at 300 dpi, is to be provided with each copy of the printed report submitted to the client and Mr. A Lines of the SYAS. As a minimum, a summary or interim statement will be produced 6 weeks after completion of the fieldwork, and a full report within 3 months.

- 3.10.2 Copies of the completed report will be submitted in both hard (if required) and digital formats to:
- The Client Danuum Developments
 - Mr A Lines and the HER at the SYAS.
- 3.10.3 A summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations, will be prepared and submitted in digital format (word/jpg >300dpi), for publication in *Archaeology in South Yorkshire*.

3.9 Publicity

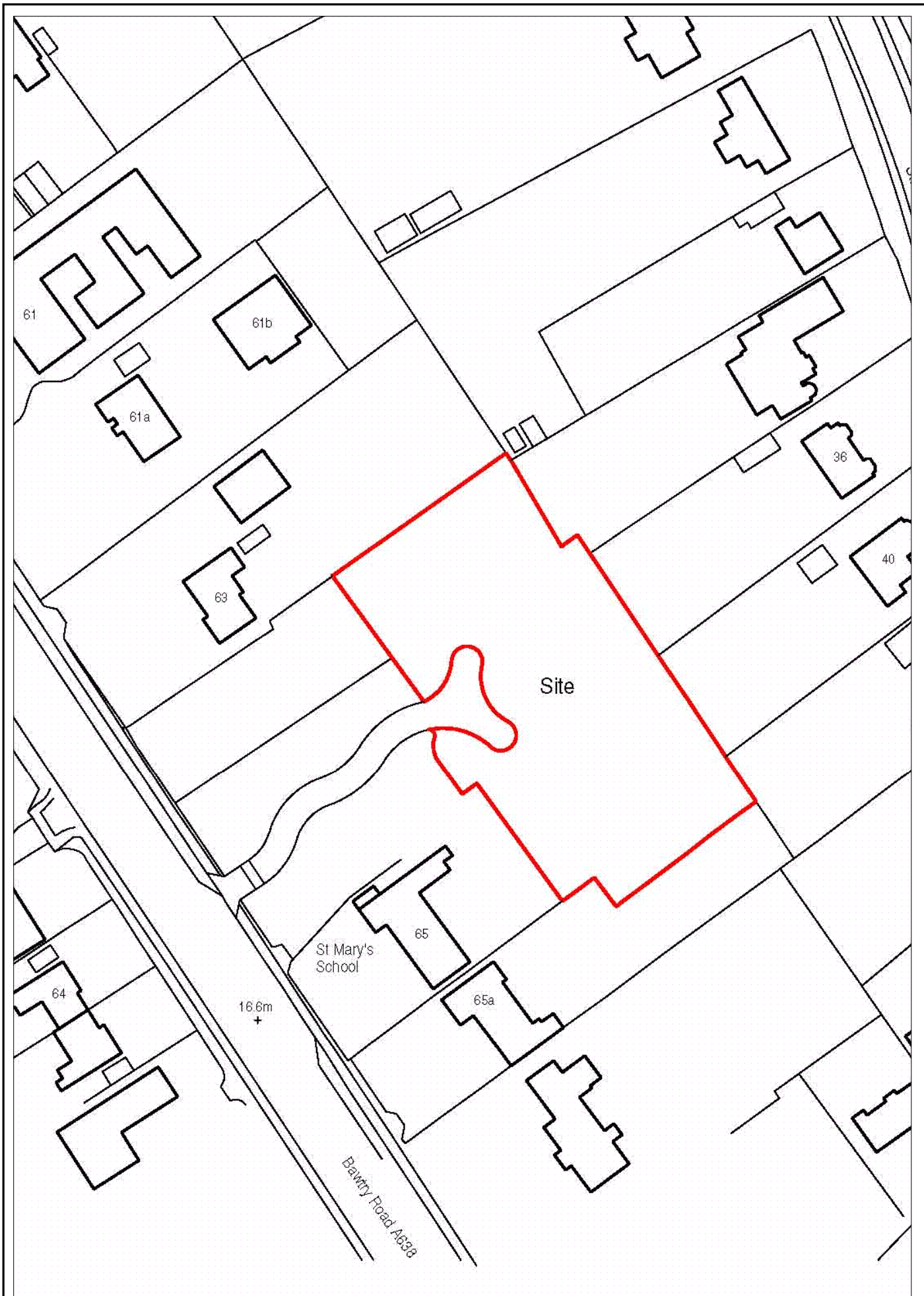
- 3.9.1 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, and an OASIS form will be completed for the project.
- 3.9.2 CS Archaeology will either arrange for copyright on the deposited material to be assigned to the Doncaster Museum in perpetuity; this licence will allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.
- 3.9.3 CS Archaeology is aware that this work may lead to further archaeological dissemination.

3.10 References

- ASWYAS, 2007, *Doncaster, South Yorkshire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment Volume 1: Town Survey*, ASWYAS report no. 1304
- English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects* (MAP2)
- Institute of Archaeologists, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* Reading
- Watkinson D. & Neal V., 1998, *First Aid for Finds* (3rd edition), RESCUE & the Archaeological Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.
- South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, 2014, 'Model Brief for Archaeological Monitoring (Watching Brief)
- Treasure Act, 1996, Code of Practice
- National Planning Policy Framework, 2012, Department for Communities and Local Government, Chp 12. Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

Any comments on this PD please address to Chris Scurfield at:

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PO for an Archaeological WB
at 65 Bawtry Road, Bessacar,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire

Figure 1: Location Map

not to scale

CS Archaeology
October 2015